

for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government: H. Con. Res. 294, amended, to call on the international community to condemn the Laogai, the system of forced labor prison camps in the People's Republic of China, as a tool for suppression maintained by the Chinese Government; **Pages H11624–29**

Condemning the Government of Zimbabwe's "Operation Murambatsvina" under which homes, businesses, religious structures, and other buildings and facilities were demolished in an effort characterized by the Government of Zimbabwe as an operation to "restore order" to the country: H. Res. 409, amended, condemning the Government of Zimbabwe's "Operation Murambatsvina" under which homes, businesses, religious structures, and other buildings and facilities were demolished in an effort characterized by the Government of Zimbabwe as an operation to "restore order" to the country;

Pages H11630–37

Providing that Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not participate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority: H.R. 575, amended, providing that Hamas and other terrorist organizations should not participate in elections held by the Palestinian Authority;

Pages H11637–42

Recognizing the importance and credibility of an independent Iraqi judiciary in the formation of a new and democratic Iraq: H. Res. 534, to recognize the importance and credibility of an independent Iraqi judiciary in the formation of a new and democratic Iraq; and

Pages H11642–44

Condemning actions by the Government of Syria that have hindered the investigation of the assassination of former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri conducted by the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC), expressing support for extending the UNIIC's investigative mandate, and stating concern about similar assassination attempts apparently aimed at destabilizing Lebanon's security and undermining Lebanon's sovereignty: H. Res. 598, to condemn actions by the Government of Syria that have hindered the investigation of the assassination of former Prime Minister of Lebanon Rafik Hariri conducted by the United Nations International Independent Investigation Commission (UNIIC), expressing support for extending the UNIIC's investigative mandate, and stating concern about similar assassination attempts apparently aimed at destabilizing Lebanon's security and undermining Lebanon's sovereignty.

Pages H11644–49

Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2006—Motion to go to Conference: The House disagreed to the Senate amendment to H.R. 2863, to make appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2006, and agreed to a conference.

Page H11580

Agreed to the Murtha motion to instruct conferees on the bill by a ye and nay vote of 308 yeas to 122

nays, Roll No. 630, after ordering the previous question.

Pages H11580–83, H11584–85

Agreed to close portions of the conference when classified national security material is being discussed by a ye and nay vote of 415 yeas to 9 nays, Roll No. 629.

Pages H11583–84

Later, the Chair appointed as conferees: Messrs. Young of Florida, Hobson, Bonilla, Frelinghuysen, Tiahrt, Wicker, Kingston, Ms. Granger, Messrs. Walsh, Aderholt, Lewis of California, Murtha, Dicks, Sabo, Visclosky, Moran of Virginia, Ms. Kaptur, Messrs. Edwards, and Obey.

Page H11586

Senate Message: Message received from the Senate today appears on page H11606.

Senate Referrals: S. 1231 was referred to the Committees on Resources and Energy and Commerce and S. 449 was referred to the Committee on Resources.

Page H11651

Quorum Calls—Votes: Six ye and nay votes and one recorded vote developed during the proceedings of today and appear on pages H11542–43, H11543, H11552, H11583–84, H11584–85, H11585, and H11585–86. There were no quorum calls.

Recess: The House recessed at 12:02 a.m. and reconvened at 8:15 a.m. on Thursday, December 15th.

Pages H11649, H111651

Adjournment: The House met at 10 a.m. and adjourned at 8:16 a.m. on Thursday, December 15th

Committee Meetings

USDA POSTED COUNTY PRICES

Committee on Agriculture: Subcommittee on General Farm Commodities and Risk Management held a hearing to review Technical Procedures of USDA's Establishment of Posted County Prices. Testimony was heard from Floyd Gaibler, Deputy Under Secretary, Farm and Foreign Agricultural Services, USDA; and public witnesses.

POST-HURRICANES HOUSING OPTIONS

Committee on Financial Services: Subcommittee on Housing and Community Opportunity, continued hearings entitled "Housing Options in the Aftermath of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the Department of Housing and Urban Development: Brian D. Montgomery, Assistant Secretary, Housing/Federal Housing Commissioner; and Orlando J. Cabrera, Assistant Secretary, Public and Indian Housing.

SECURE HANDLING OF AMMONIUM NITRATE ACT OF 2005

Committee on Homeland Security: Subcommittee on Prevention of Nuclear and Biological Attack approved for full Committee action, as amended, H.R. 3197, Secure Handling of Ammonium Nitrate Act of 2005, 10 a.m., 2237 Rayburn.

Prior to this action, the Subcommittee held a hearing on H.R. 3197. Testimony was heard from

James W. McMahon, Director, Office of Homeland Security, State of New York; and public witnesses.

OVERSIGHT—NATIONAL PARK SERVICE ORGANIC ACT

Committee on Resources: Subcommittee on National Parks held an oversight hearing on The National Park Service Organic Act and its Implementation through Daily Park Management. Testimony was heard from Steve Martin, Deputy Director, National Park Service, Department of the Interior; the following former officials of the Department of the Interior: William Horn, Assistant Secretary, Fish and Wildlife and Parks; and Denis Galvin, Deputy Director, National Park Service; and public witnesses.

BORDER PROTECTION, ANTITERRORISM, AND ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION CONTROL ACT OF 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a structured rule providing 2 hours of general debate on H.R. 4437, Border Protection, Antiterrorism, and Illegal Immigration Control Act of 2005, equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on the Judiciary and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Homeland Security. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. The rule provides that the amendment in the nature of a substitute recommended by the Committee on the Judiciary now printed in the bill, modified by the amendment printed in part A of the Rules Committee report accompanying the resolution, shall be considered as adopted in the House and in the Committee of the Whole and shall be considered as read. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule makes in order only those amendments printed in part B of the Rules Committee report. The rule provides that the amendments printed in part B of the report may be offered only in the order printed in the report, may be offered only by a Member designated in the report, shall be considered as read, shall be debatable for the time specified in the report equally divided and controlled by the proponent and an opponent, shall not be subject to amendment, and shall not be subject to a demand for division of the question in the House or in the Committee of the Whole. The rule waives all points of order against amendments printed in part B of the report. Finally, the rule provides that, after disposition of the amendments printed in part B of the report, the Committee of the Whole shall rise without motion and no further consideration of the bill shall be in order except by a subsequent order of the House. Testimony was heard from Chairmen King and Sensenbrenner; and Representatives Chabot, King of Iowa, Flake, Gohmert, Kolbe, Rohrabacher, Deal of Georgia, Weldon of Florida, Sullivan, Gingrey, Garrett, Blackburn, McHenry, Poe, Campbell, Thompson of Mississippi, Loretta Sanchez of California,

Markey, Meek of Florida, Jackson-Lee of Texas, Nadler, Berman, Linda T. Sanchez of California, Slaughter, Stupak, Reyes, Gonzalez, Davis of Tennessee and Ruppersberger.

PENSION PROTECTION ACT OF 2005

Committee on Rules: Granted, by voice vote, a closed rule providing 90 minutes of debate in the House on the bill H.R. 2830, Pension Protection Act of 2005, as amended, equally divided among and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Education and the Workforce and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Ways and Means. The rule waives all points of order against consideration of the bill. In lieu of the amendments recommended by the Committee on Education and the Workforce and Ways of the amendments recommended by the Committees on Education and the Workforce and Ways and Means now printed in the bill, the amendment in the nature of a substitute printed in the part A of the report of the Committee on Rules accompanying the resolution shall be considered as adopted. The rule waives all points of order against the bill, as amended. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Finally, the rule provides that, notwithstanding the operation of the previous question, the Chair may postpone further consideration of the bill to a time designated by the Speaker. Testimony was heard from Chairman Boehner and Representatives Gutknecht and Visclosky.

HURRICANE KATRINA: PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE BY STATE OF LOUISIANA

Select Bipartisan Committee to Investigate the Preparation for and Response to Hurricane Katrina: Held a hearing entitled "Hurricane Katrina: Preparedness and Response by the State of Louisiana." Testimony was heard from the following officials of the State of Louisiana: Katherine Babineaux Blanco, Governor; Jeff Smith, Deputy Director, Office of Homeland Security and Emergency Preparedness; C. Ray Nagin, Mayor, and Terry Ebbert, Director, Homeland Security; both with the City of New Orleans; William M. Lokey, Federal Coordinating Officer, Baton Rouge, and Phillip Barr, Deputy Federal Coordinating Officer, Advance Team in New Orleans, both with FEMA, Department of Homeland Security.

COMMITTEE MEETINGS FOR THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2005

(Committee meetings are open unless otherwise indicated)

Senate

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation: business meeting to consider pending calendar business, 10 a.m., SD-106.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs: business meeting to consider the nominations of George W. Foresman, to be Under Secretary for Preparedness,